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CAB
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Attorney's Docket: XI/P02956US0
MILLET, et al

Serial No. 08/591,447 : Art Unit:

Filed: January 29, 1996 : Examiner:

For: Tbp2 FRAGMENTS OF THE TRANSFERRIN RECEPTOR OF NEISSERIA
MENINGTIDIS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C.

S I R:

Preliminary to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1 to 53 without prejudice and substitute therefor the following claims:

54. A polypeptide having an amino acid sequence which is derived from the sequence of the Tbp2 subunit of the transferrin receptor of a Neisseria meningtidis strain of type IM2169 or IM2394, whose first, second and third domains are defined by maximal homology alignment with the sequence of the Tbp2 subunit of the respective reference strain, IM2169 or IM2394, as shown in ID SEQ No. 1 or 3, by total or partial deletion of at least one domain of said IM2169 or IM2394 type Tbp2 subunit, provided the first and second domains are not totally deleted simultaneously.

55. A polypeptide according to claim 54, having an amino acid sequence which is ~~derived~~ obtained from the sequence of the Tbp2 subunit of the transferrin receptor of a Neisseria meningitidis strain of type IM2394.

56. A polypeptide according to claim 55, having an amino acid sequence which is ~~derived~~ obtained from the sequence of the IM2394 Tbp2 subunit.